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From: DeMaria, Alfred (DPH)
Sent: Friday, January 19, 2007 4:13 PM
To: Salemi, Charles (DPH); Nassif, Julianne (DPH)
Subject: FW: Drug Laboratory

We need to put something together with history of funding, volume, changes in testing requests, etc. I also got a very good call from a Middlesex Co. ADA.

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From: Kiely, Ed (DPH)
Sent: Wednesday, January 17, 2007 3:53 PM
To: DeMaria, Alfred (DPH)
Subject: RE: Drug Laboratory

Hi Al,
Could I get a write up to share with HHS about the history of the lab and the funding issues surrounding the drug lab?
Thanks

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From: DeMaria, Alfred (DPH)
Sent: Wednesday, January 17, 2007 12:57 PM
To: Kiely, Ed (DPH)
Cc: Cote, Paul (DPH); Nassif, Julianne (DPH); Cheney, Sally (DPH)
Subject: Drug Laboratory

The time has come when we have no space to store drugs and a severe shortage of staff related to illness, injury and premature birth. We are seconding staff from other labs, but that only buys us a little time. We are proposing a moratorium on testing beginning February 1. We receive no support for the Drug Lab except out of the State Lab account. I don't think we have any choice at this juncture. This will delay the criminal justice system, but it is already delayed by the increasing back log. The municipalities outside of Worcester County have no alternatives. We reviewed what other states do and they generally charge local law enforcement for testing. We have never done that, so introducing it now would be very unsettling to cities and towns. Please review and process the attached letter.

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